

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 17, 2005**

**PRESENT:** Rick Cleary, Laura Sherman, John Luginbuhl, Anna Sanko and Tim Olmsted

**ABSENT:** Eric Santini and Laurie Fiore

**STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Reanna Goodreau, Recording Secretary

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Cleary called the Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE.**

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Formation of Subcommittee to Investigate Medical Opportunities with Local Hospitals

Chairman Cleary explained that the commission is interested in the possibility of teaming with a local hospital to bring some type of medical center to Ellington. The commission believes this is important due to the increase of population and the addition of age-restricted housing.

Reanna Goodreau noted that she had received correspondence from the Town Attorney regarding Freedom of Information (FOI) requirements for subcommittees. Ms. Goodreau explained that FOI requirements do not apply if the subcommittee is less than a quorum of the commission.

Chairman Cleary asked if anyone would like to be on the subcommittee and Commissioner Olmsted stated that he would. This item will be carried over to the September meeting see if the absent members would be interested in being on the subcommittee.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. CEDAS: Camera Friendly Communities—Update

Commissioner Sanko stated that she and Commissioner Sherman have taken pictures of town owned land. She explained that "Camera Friendly" has changed their requirements for submitting photographs and this has made the process easier. The commission discussed ways

to raise citizen awareness about the program. It was decided that posters would be placed at the library and other town buildings, information would be posted on the website, and a small article may be included in the town newsletter.

Commissioner Sanko also suggested that the commission distribute postcards with scenes of the Ellington in order to promote Ellington. The commission agreed that this is a good idea and discussed possibilities of how to distribute them. Commissioner Sanko will look into the cost of making the postcards.

## 2. Farm Initiatives—Update

Commissioner Sherman stated that the farmers' market seems to be doing well. She explained that the market has an association, which manages the market and fields inquiries about the market. Chairman Cleary suggested finding out if the association is planning to run the market again next year.

## 3. Business Survey—Update

Reanna Goodreau stated that she will be working with Chairman Cleary to finalize the list of business owners that the survey will be sent to. Once that has been completed, staff will send the information to Wordcom in order for them to distribute the survey.

## 4. Tax Abatement Policies/Procedures—Update

The commission reviewed the comments submitted by the Town Attorney, Assessor, Tax Collector/WPCA Administrator, and Building Official. Chairman Cleary will ask for clarification of some comments by the Building Official. Staff will incorporate changes as instructed by the commission. Once the comments have been incorporated, staff will forward the draft to the Town Attorney for her review. The final draft will be sent to the Board of Selectmen for their review and action.

## 5. Review of the Economic Development Chapter of the Current Plan of Conservation & Development & Zoning Regulations

Chairman Cleary stated that since the update project has not been started, the EDC has more time to review the Plan of Conservation & Development (Plan of C&D) and Zoning Regulations independently before discussing it amongst themselves. Chairman Cleary stated that it would be beneficial to meet with Planimetrics once they have been contracted to update the Plan of C&D.

**MOVED (SHERMAN), SECONDED (LUGINBUHL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO DELAY SUBMITTING COMMENTS ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF THE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (PLAN OF C&D) UNTIL PLANIMETRICS IS UNDER CONTRACT FOR UPDATING THE PLAN OF C&D IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE COMMISSION'S COMMENTS & THE CONSULTANT'S IDEAS COMPLIMENT EACH OTHER.**

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of the July 13, 2005 Meeting Minutes

**MOVED (LUGINBUHL), SECONDED (OLMSTED) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JULY 13, 2005 MEETING MINUTES.**

2. Correspondence:
  - a. The Regional Review, July/August 2005
  - b. MetroHartford Alliance CEDS Grant, October 2004

**SO NOTED.**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED (SHERMAN), SECONDED (OLMSTED) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:03 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Reanna Goodreau  
Recording Secretary